

Thomas Prevot

From: Greg Condon [gcondon@mail.arc.nasa.gov]
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2006 11:00 AM
To: Everett A Palmer III; Thomas Prevot
Subject: MACS software

Importance: High

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

SUBJECT: MACS Software

The MACS software was used to prototype a simplified air traffic control simulator for educational usage with middle school students. Using the design and features prototyped in MACS, we then developed a Java Applet for use by students over the Internet.

MACS was a great tool to use for this prototyping. Several college students with no previous experience were able to develop several prototype capabilities and interfaces that we fine tuned to the final configuration. They were able to shut off capabilities not need and to develop new capabilities to include a new specific sector diagram, ability to control the speed and planned flight route of up to 5 planes, etc. We were then able to bring in some 6th grade students and beta test the prototype with them. The ability to quickly make changes was a great benefit. It was faster than developing java applets for each new idea.

Using MACS saved us time and resources and we ended up with a great java applet, as testified by teachers in a set of classroom testing conducted locally.

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"All the flowers of all the tomorrows are in the seeds of today"